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*Willard Wattles*

“Who art thou, carpenter  
Of the bowed head;  
And what buildest thou?”  
“Heaven,” he said.

DING DONG BELL

Ashes to ashes, dust to dust—  
Lords and ladies and loves and lust,  
Gray old mothers in the sun,  
Men grown listless when work is done—  
Ashes to ashes, the folded tent,  
The pitcher shattered, the wonder spent.

Ashes to ashes, dust and rest—  
Blazoned glory, but sleep is best.  
Once there was clinging and a white breast small,  
But lying alone is best of all.  
Overhead the dead stars sweep—  
Night and ashes, dust and sleep.

*Willard Wattles*